

similar categories, with even more emphasis on textiles than the county experienced in 1960. For example, in six major industries contacted in or near Maiden there were approximately 1,700 workers. Of these, some 1,200 were in textile occupations -- a total of at least 70%. (Of this 70%, about 55% were female workers. This figure held true, as workers for all industries contacted averaged about 45% male, 55% female.) This current occupational estimate compares with the 40.4% of North Carolina industrial jobs being in the textile industry -- a figure recently released in the North Carolina Employment Security Commission's Annual Report for 1967.

#### Community Patterns and Available Workers

Many workers today are mobile and willing to work outside of their own community. The willingness to commute to other places for work is evidenced by Table 7.

Of course, with the improved roads and more automobiles in the state and local area, it is obvious that the commuting pattern of Maiden and the planning area would indicate even more mobility than in 1960. Indeed, industrial management representatives contacted in connection with this study indicate that workers daily commute to Maiden from 10, 15 and 20 miles away. This range would include parts of nine counties -- Catawba, Alexander, Iredell, Mecklenburg, Lincoln, Gaston, Cleveland, Burke and Caldwell.

Figure 6 and its accompanying table gives the September, 1968, estimate of recruitable workers within 15 road miles of Maiden. This area, which touches Gaston, Iredell and Lincoln Counties in addition to Catawba County, involved a 1960 population of 78,955 persons and presently has an estimated 1,850